



Coppin State University

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www.coppin.edu/green

Higher Education

Member since September 2009

MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP



Environmental Team

The Environmental Sustainability Taskforce consists of students, faculty, staff, and administrators. The purpose of this taskforce is to develop and implement the University's climate action plan. It meets monthly.



Environmental Policy Statement

<http://www.coppin.edu/green/framework.asp>



Annual Goals

Over the next year, the University's Sustainability Taskforce will develop a comprehensive climate action plan that will include policies and procedures to reduce the University's greenhouse gas emissions; actions to make climate neutrality and sustainability a part of the educational curriculum; and an increase in research on climate change and environmental sustainability. In September, the taskforce will begin to work on the following areas:

Area of Focus	Responsibilities
Energy and Water Management	Develop the energy conservation, on-site renewables, and water management areas, green power purchasing, new construction/green design, CFCs, and carbon offsets GHG reduction strategies and projects
Transportation	Develop fleet vehicles, campus bussing, commuting and air travel components of our plan
Recycling, Waste, and Purchasing Management	Develop a complete recycling plan for the University and develop recommendations to minimize waste in the dining hall (e.g., trayless dining, composting, local and/or organic foods, etc.). This team will help address GHG mitigation areas that may not be addressed by other teams
Curriculum and Research	Develop those aspects of our CAP which will introduce climate change and sustainability into the curriculum and enhance research

	to address climate change. This includes recommendations for infusing sustainability into the curriculum, co-curricular activities, plans for the development of future undergraduate and graduate degree offerings; and faculty and staff development.
Community Engagement	Examine ways to extend CSU's environmental initiatives beyond the campus especially as it relates to student engagement within the community. This may include identifying community partners and working with them to help low-income families lower electric bills by volunteering to do energy audits; starting community gardens etc.
Communications	Responsible for (a) keeping the campus community up-to-date on CSU's climate action efforts and for (b) developing and implementing plans to involve that community as much as possible in both the planning process and in actions that reduce GHG emissions. This includes continuously updating the sustainability website, advertising to the community various sustainability initiatives and the activities of this taskforce.

WASTE



Recycling

We are currently recycling paper only, but are developing plans to expand recycling to include bottles and cans and other recyclable materials and will participate in Recyclemania 2010.

ENERGY



Energy Efficiency

- *Our environmentally conscious practices include installing new energy efficient heating and cooling systems and motion sensor lighting systems in our new facilities; installing in the Partlett Longworth Moore Library "green tile" which contains natural rock and recycled glass; and installing new energy efficient air handlers and a new motion sensor lighting system when we upgrade the library's utilities.*
- *The New [Physical Education Complex \(PEC\)](#) project (Fall 2009) is designed and constructed to track [LEED](#) certification and includes energy saving features. There is also a recycling program in place on the construction site and most of the correspondence is done electronically in lieu of using paper.*
- *CSU worked with HP engineers to design a customized personal computer (PC) that optimizes CSU's needs and is Energy Star compliant, Category B, with 85% efficient power supply. This configuration will save CSU \$40 per PC per year in power consumption (about a total of \$45,000 per year). At no extra cost to CSU, HP agreed to bundles of 8 desktops together for a 'green' shipping and handling.*

TRANSPORTATION



Fleet Vehicles

- *Coppin State University has implemented eco-security measures and purchased battery-powered, zero-gas emission T-3 personal mobility vehicles. These police transport vehicles have three wheels, are extremely maneuverable, and run on electricity.*

GREEN BUILDING



LEED Silver

New [Physical Education Complex \(PEC\)](#) project (Fall 2009) is designed and constructed to track [LEED](#) certification for New Construction.

OTHER



- The University has completed its first greenhouse gas emissions inventory to determine CSU's carbon footprint and emissions trajectory. This analysis is a key part of the University's commitment to the ACUPCC initiative (see www.presidentsclimatecommitment.org). Over the next year, the University's Sustainability Taskforce will use the results of this inventory to develop a [climate action plan](#).
- To increase awareness of climate change and sustainability issues, the Department of Natural Sciences launched a Sustainability Lecture Series in February 2009. For the inaugural lecture, Dr. Erle C. Ellis from UMBC's Department of Geography and Environmental System presented information on the history of land use, anthropogenic carbon emissions, and strategies for managing land to reduce atmospheric carbon. The University plans to continue this lecture series during the 2009-2010 academic year.
- CSU has implemented several projects to nurture sustainability champions among faculty and students campus-wide. The Green Coppin Coalition, a coalition founded by faculty and students, has placed into action different activities to create awareness of the current climate crisis and global warming among the University and the surrounding community.
- This summer (2009), Dr. Mintesinot Jiru, Assistant Professor, Natural Sciences, is working with students majoring in biology and chemistry to study the impact of coal burning on ecosystem sustainability and human health. The students are sampling soil from three coal-fired generating

stations in Maryland and will analyze the bio-chemistry of the soil and conduct an analysis using various plants to understand the effects of greenhouse gas emissions on the food supply. This study is a part of the university's effort to educate students about the impact of greenhouse gas emissions on an urban environment and to increase awareness of climate change issues.